GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2906
ANSWERED ON:09.12.2002
TECHNOLOGY MISSION ON COCONUT
A.K. PREMAJAM;K. MURALEEDHARAN;SURESH KURUP

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether this ministry have given approval for the proposed Technology Mission on Coconut;

(b) if so, the salient features of the project;

(c) whether it is true that the project does not cover replacement of diseased trees with disease resistant new trees;

(d) whether the Government received any suggestion on the above matter from the Government of Kerala;

(e) if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken by the Union Government thereon; and

(f) the details of amount released to the Coconut Board for the implementation of Technology Mission on Coconut to Kerala State during the period of 2001-02?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a)&(b): Government of India sanctioned Central Sector Scheme on Technology Mission on Coconut during 2001-2002 as part of the IX Plan. The scheme address issues relating to technology development, demonstrations and adoption in the field of the insect/pest and disease management; processing and product diversification; and market research and promotion. The scheme has focus on convergence and synergy among numerous ongoing programmes in the field of coconut development in order to bring in horizontal and vertical integration of these programmes to ensure adequate, appropriate, timely and concurrent attention to all the links in the production, processing, product diversification etc. Through the programmes of the mission, market potential of coconut products have been enhanced which has helped in improving the prices of coconut.

(c): One of the main component of the scheme on Technology Mission on Coconut is development, demonstration and adoption of technologies for management of insect pest and diseases, which includes technologies for management of root wilt disease. Eradication of root wilt affected palms and replanting with disease resistant seedlings are part of the package of technology for management of root wilt disease.

(d)&(e): The Government of Kerala submitted a project proposal to Coconut Development Board for containing root wilt disease in the border districts of Thiruvananthapuram and Thrissur at a total cost of Rs.103.52 crores to consider under the Technology Mission on Coconut. This include Rs.38.27 crores for cutting and removal of 15.31 lakh disease affected palms. The project was considered by the Project Approval Committee of Coconut Development Board in its meeting held on 25.10.2002 and approved the project in principle with some suggestions for modifications. Government of Kerala has been requested to submit the modified projects.

(f): Government of India released an amount of Rs.400.00 lakhs to Coconut Development Board during the year 2001-2002 for implementing the Scheme on Technology Mission on Coconut, covering all the coconut growing States in the country.